



Update from The Virginia Children's Cabinet

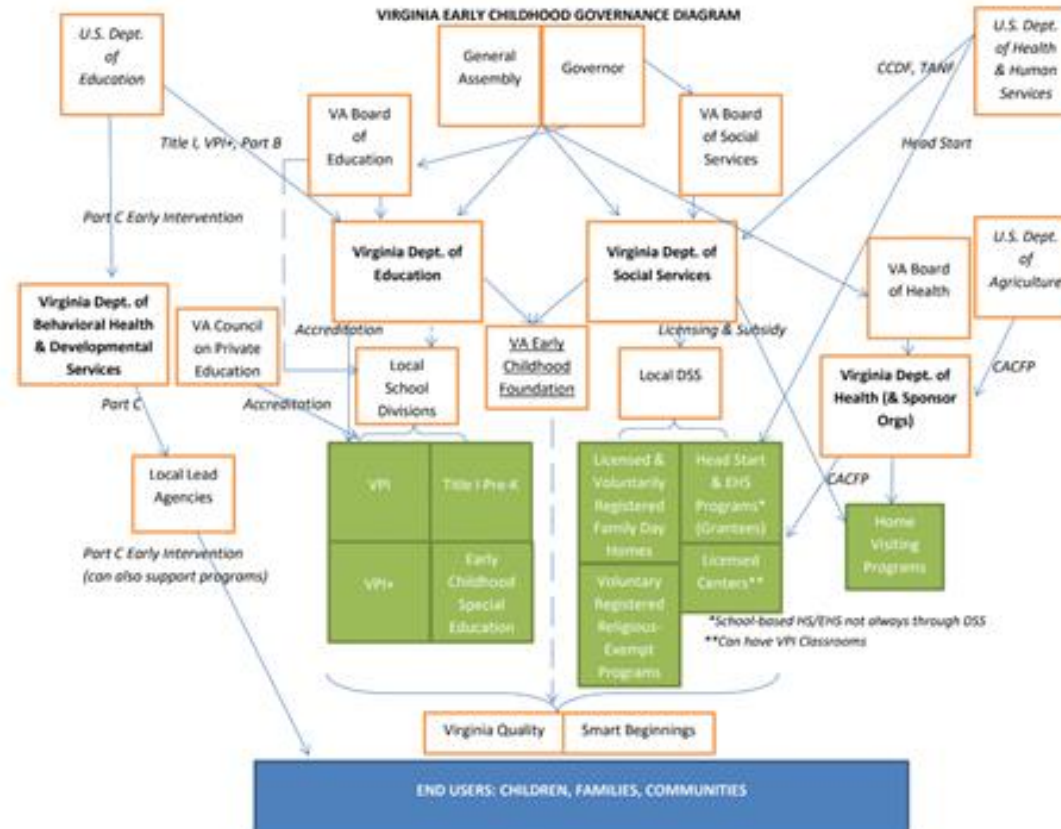
First Lady of Virginia Pamela Northam

December 15, 2021



Early Childhood Development and School Readiness

Previously, governance structure made it difficult to measure and strengthen Virginia's early childhood system – at both state and local levels.



Key transition milestones in 2020 - 2024

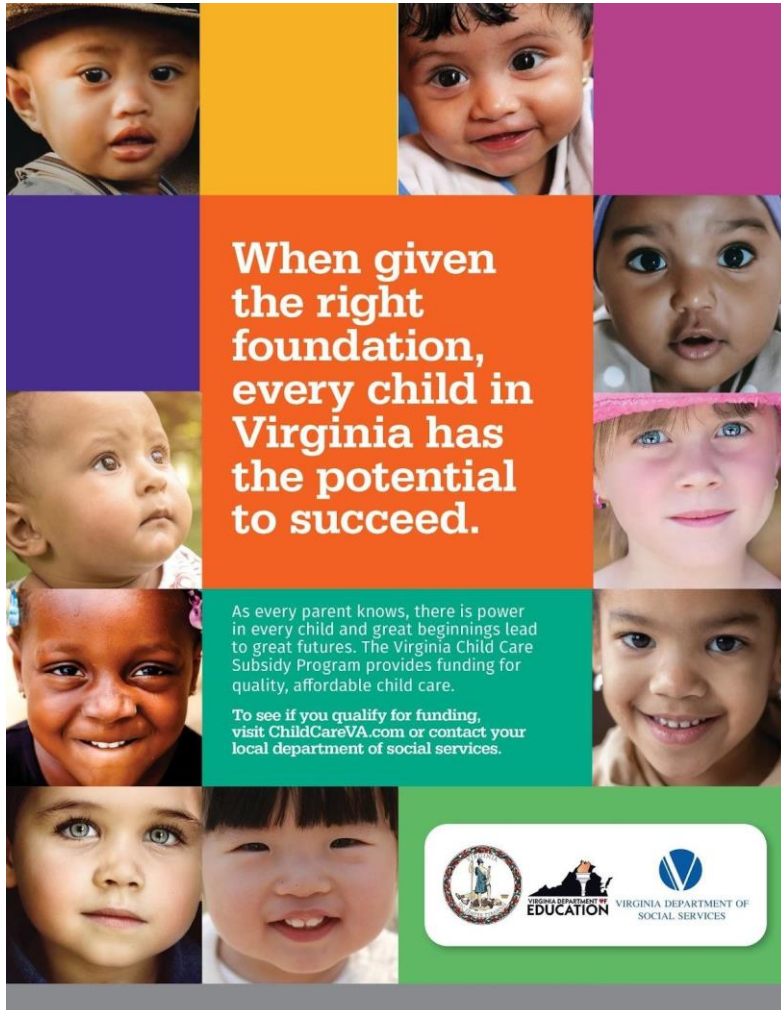
- 2020 Regular Session: House Bill 1012 and Senate Bill 578
 - Created single point of accountability for early learning programs at Virginia Department of Education
 - Requires a uniform rating and improvement system for all publicly funded programs by 2024
- July 1, 2021: Virginia Department of Education has official oversight of all publicly funded early learning programs through its new Division of School Readiness

This School Year: Record 25,000 Public Preschool Slots for 3 and 4-year-olds

- \$151.6 Million investment in VPI and Mixed Delivery Program
- Over twice the state investment from 2018
- 37 Divisions accepting 3's
- Additional 14,400 students in Head Start and Early Head Start





ChildCareVA.com



When given the right foundation, every child in Virginia has the potential to succeed.

As every parent knows, there is power in every child and great beginnings lead to great futures. The Virginia Child Care Subsidy Program provides funding for quality, affordable child care.

To see if you qualify for funding, visit ChildCareVA.com or contact your local department of social services.

¿Necesita cuidado infantil debido al trabajo, a la búsqueda laboral, a la capacitación o educación relacionadas con el empleo?

¡El Programa de subsidio para el cuidado infantil (CCSP) puede ayudarlo! Actualmente, se expandió temporalmente la elegibilidad para el programa para ofrecer ayuda económica a más familias que nunca antes.

¿NECESITA AYUDA CON LOS COSTOS PARA EL CUIDADO INFANTIL?

USTED PUEDE CALIFICAR PARA RECIBIR AYUDA DE ACUERDO CON LOS SIGUIENTES CRITERIOS DE ELEGIBILIDAD TEMPORALES Y EXPANDIDOS PARA EL CCSP:

- Si tiene un hijo que aún no está en kinder y su ingreso familiar no supera el 85 % del ingreso promedio estatal. También hay ayuda disponible para otros niños de la familia que tienen menos de 13 años. Su familia debe cumplir con todos los otros criterios de elegibilidad no económicos.
- Si está buscando empleo. Entre los criterios de elegibilidad expandida se incluye la búsqueda laboral como una categoría clasificatoria, junto con la educación y el empleo.
- Como un cambio de elegibilidad permanente, ya no es necesario participar en la aplicación de las leyes de cuidado infantil.

CÓMO HACER UNA SOLICITUD

Puede presentar una solicitud desde ahora en una de las siguientes maneras:

- Visitando **CommonHelp**.
- Comunicándose con su **departamento local de servicios sociales**.

Se le pedirá que seleccione un **proveedor de cuidado infantil** que participe en el CCSP. Para obtener más información, visite ChildCareVA.com.

LÍMITES DE INGRESOS PROMEDIOS ESTATALES	
Tamaño del hogar	Ingreso bruto mensual máximo
2	\$5,040
3	\$6,226
4	\$7,412
5	\$8,598
6	\$9,784
7	\$10,007
8	\$10,228



Child Care VA
ChildCareVA.com



You may qualify for funding for child care. Apply now.

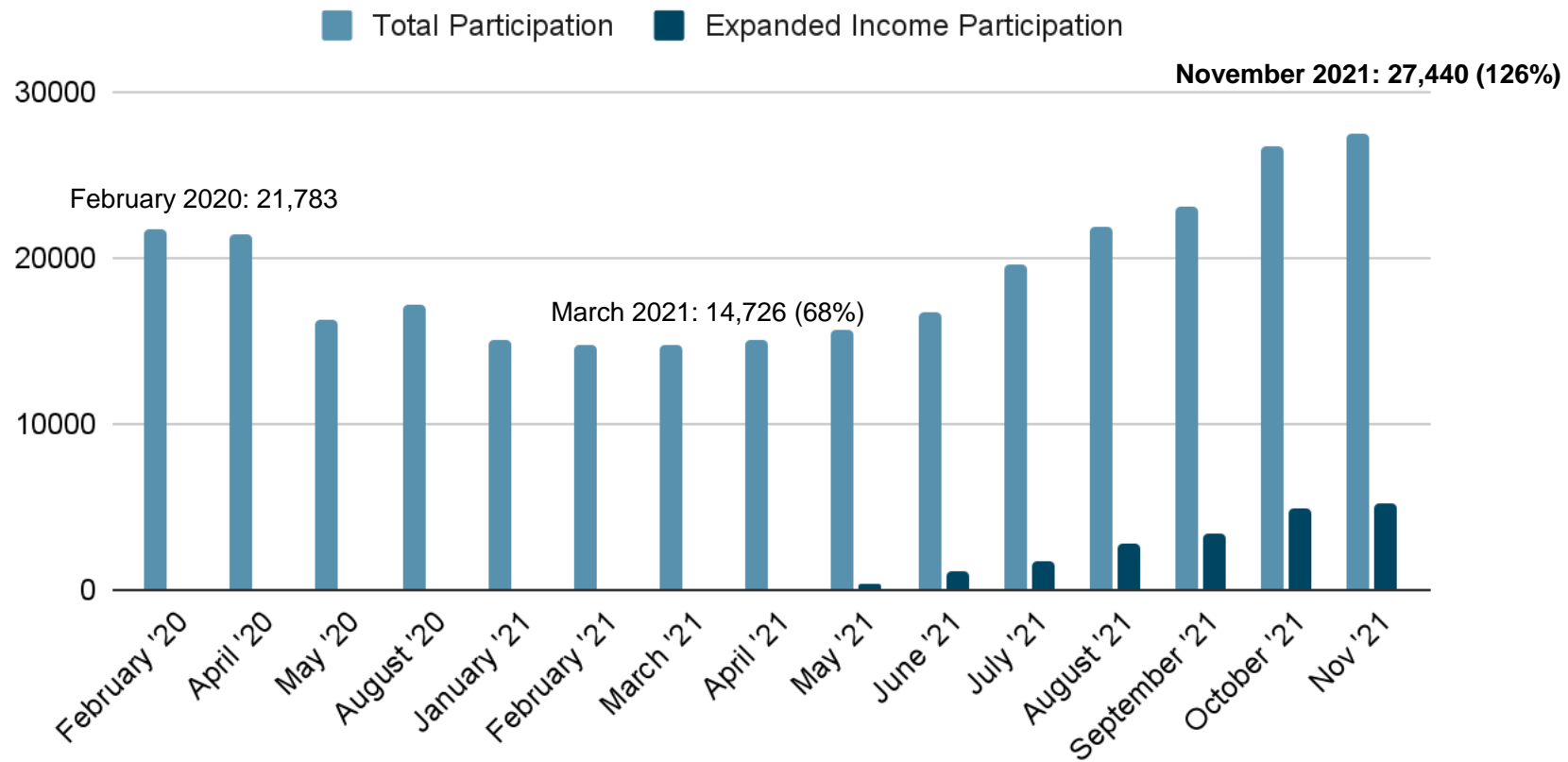
To help make quality child care more affordable, the Virginia Child Care Subsidy Program provides funding for families with little learners. If you didn't qualify before, you may now. This expanded funding will help all of us "Get Virginia back to work."

To see if you qualify for funding, visit ChildCareVA.com or contact your local department of social services.



Child Care Subsidy Program Participation Surpasses Pre-Pandemic Total

Virginia Child Care Subsidy Program Participation



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Special Session 2021: General Assembly Authorized Spending of \$793.5M of ARPA via the CCDBG

The largest portion of those funds, \$488.6M, are required to be spent only on Child Care Stabilization Grants. VDOE has been distributing these funds since early November.

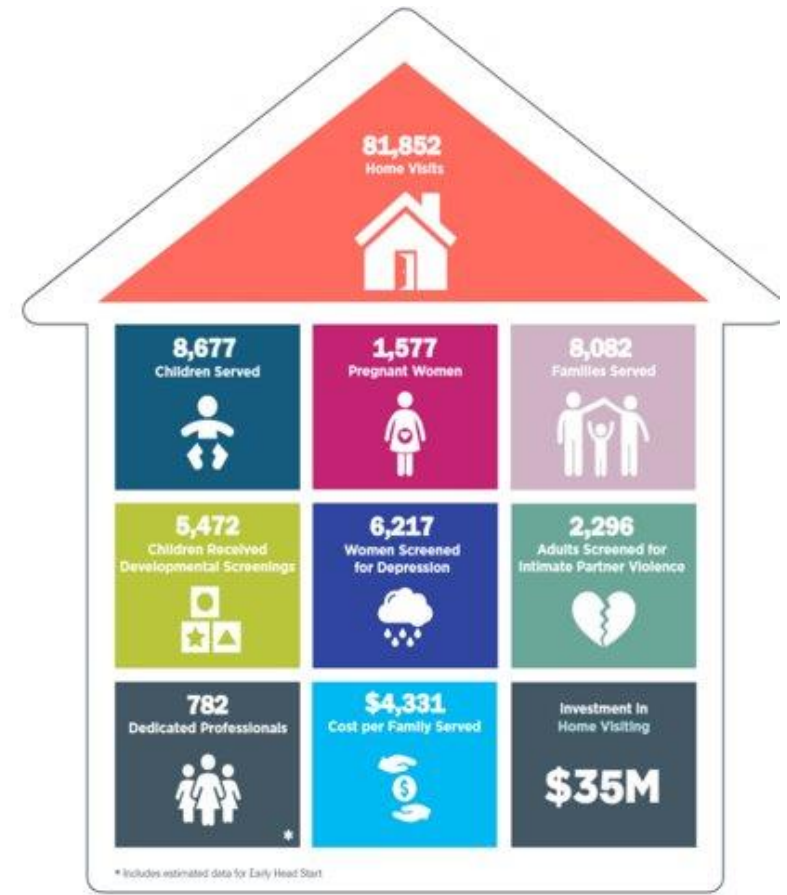
The remaining \$304.9M is supplemental discretionary which can be used for:

- Expanding access to Virginia Child Care Subsidy Program (CCPS)
- Educator retention grants
- Uniform measurement and improvement system
- Needs Assessments
- Existing facility improvements



Home Visiting Updates

- Services:
 - Number of families reached during the pandemic decreased with disruption to traditional referral systems
 - Depth and frequency of connections with families intensified significantly
 - Local programs continue to adapt service delivery and needed by offering virtual visits, outdoor meetings and home visits as appropriate based on family need
- **Virginia's Plan for Home Visiting** (2019) defines statewide approach, minimum standards and accountability measures across models of service delivery.
- Home Visiting workforce and data initiatives (2021) include **provider certification** and data warehouse for unified reporting and integration with state systems.
- **Community-based needs assessment** (2020) informed development of comprehensive strategic plan to advance quality and drive sustainable growth.
- Work to develop a **Home Visiting Medicaid benefit** remains on-going with the completion of DMAS Workgroup (Oct 2021) to make recommendations for benefit design and implementation



Maternal Health

- Expanded Medicaid to over 600,000 Virginians, including dental coverage
- Significant investment in maternal and child wellbeing
 - Release of a statewide maternal health strategic plan
 - 12-month postpartum coverage for FAMIS moms
 - Implementation of a community doula benefit and a study of a homevisiting benefit
- Removal of the 40-quarter rule, and prenatal coverage for women who previously did not qualify due to immigration status



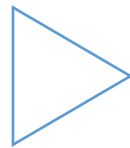
Nutrition and Food Security

Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

Secretary Bettina Ring

Hunger in Virginia

Before COVID19:
850,000
food
insecure
Virginians,
250,000
children



Resulting from COVID19:
150,000
MORE
food
insecure
Virginians

Governor's Children's Cabinet: Nutrition and Food Security

The Children's Cabinet set a goal of ensuring that Virginia children have consistent, reliable access to healthy foods.

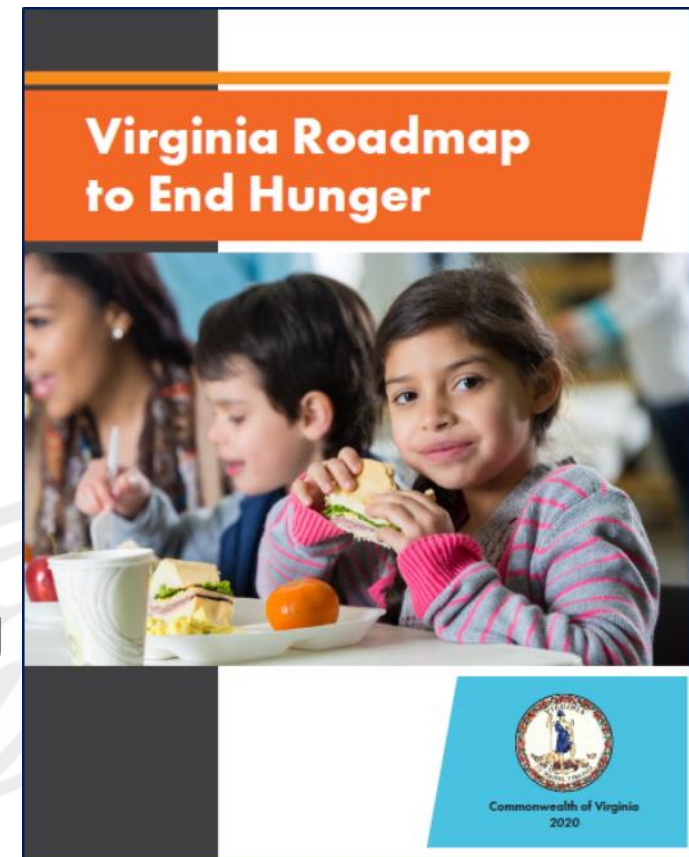
Focus areas have included:

- School nutrition
- Local food systems and local agriculture
- Nutrition benefits for families
- Emergency food assistance



Virginia's Roadmap to End Hunger

- First of its kind, unified set of goals and strategies prioritizing food security across sectors, Secretariats, agencies, and programs
- Identifies the greatest opportunities to reduce food insecurity in Virginia and critical next steps to developing policies, programs, and partnerships that will benefit Virginia's children and communities
- Creates a partnership with local Hunger Action Coalitions addressing hunger in their communities
- To sign up and learn more, please visit www.feedva.org





Systems of Care and Safety for School-Aged Youth

Federal and State Support for a Healthy Return to School

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding to Schools:

Governor announced \$500 million investment to improve air quality in schools

Federal funding directly to local schools (ESSER I, II, III) through 2024

- Summer School/Extended Learning
- Stand Up Virtual Academies/Expand Access to Virtual Virginia
- Positions to support learning recovery (coaches, tutors, interventionists)
- Broadband and technology access

2021-2022 School Year Key Goals

- All students will have access to in-person instruction 5 days a week
 - Goal is to make on-line options available for families who chose that option(Virtual VA along with local and regional approaches)
 - Goal is that instruction is provided without disruption
- All students are prepared for a healthy return to school
 - COVID-19 vaccinations now authorized for all children over 5 years old, booster for those over 16 years old
 - Following CDC guidance on mitigation strategies
- All students have access to school staff that are prepared to support their learning

Investments in Student Support

- Significant increases in school counselors
 - At the beginning of the Northam Administration: 1:416 (average of ratio for elementary, middle and high school)
 - 2021-2022 School Year - 1:325 students
- Added student support personnel to the Standards of Quality (SOQs)
 - School psychologists, social workers, and school health personnel

Investments in Teacher Salaries

- Historic investments in state support to lift Virginia's Teacher Salaries above the National Average
- Largest state support for teacher salary increases in over 15 years with an additional 10% proposed in the 2022-2024 Biennial Budget

School Safety - 2019 Session

- School board and local law enforcement MOU
- School Resources Officers (SRO) and school administrators training
- \$2.7 million to support six new positions in the Center for School and Campus Safety at the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)

School Safety - Current Initiatives

- Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Grants (DCJS)
- 2020 Bureau of Justice Assistance - Stop Violence Grant Award
 - Handle with Care program
 - Training for School Personnel and Law Enforcement on Adolescent Mental Health
 - Suicide Awareness Public Service Announcement Campaign

Virginia's Road to Resilience

- The Commonwealth's Commitment
 - Virginia aims to deliver innovative trauma-informed services that promote health and safety for all, and prevent and mitigate childhood trauma.
 - Children's Cabinet and Trauma Informed Care Working Group and Trauma Informed Leadership Team
 - State and policy initiatives and programming oriented around building resilience
 - Virginia HEALS: The Trauma-Informed Model of Service Delivery and Toolkit

Trauma-Informed Care Working Group

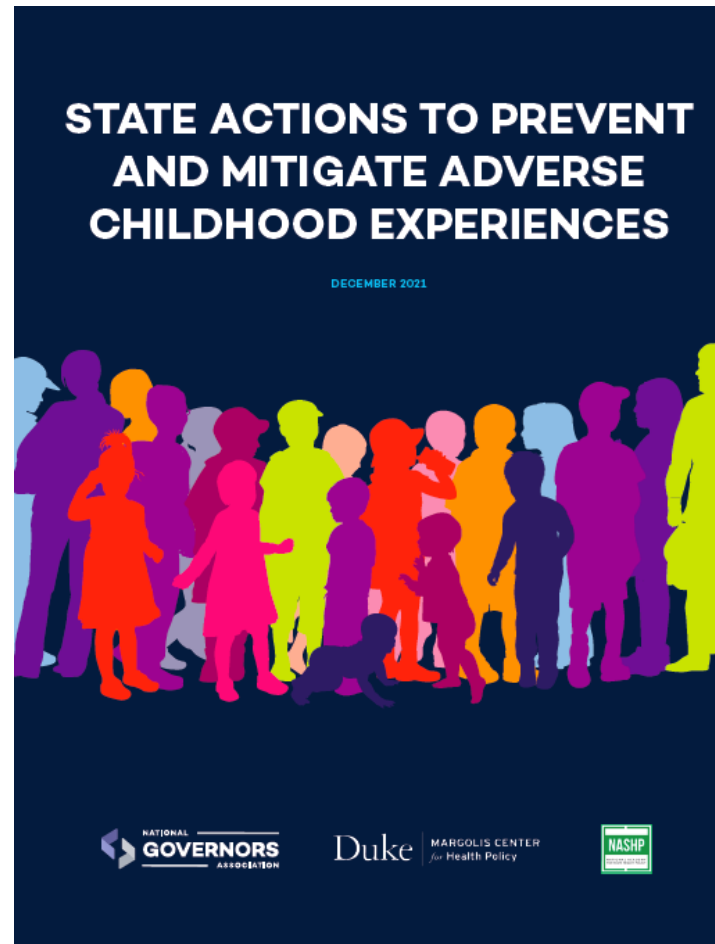
- Stakeholder engagement and community-based leadership
- Statewide Resilience Scorecard
- Trauma-Informed Care Working Group Guiding Principles
- Children's Cabinet Legacy Tour: On the Road to Resilience



Trauma-Informed Leadership Team - Agency Programs and Initiatives

- Training and Professional Development
- Agency-level Policy and Practice Review
- Coordinated COVID-19 Pandemic Response and Support for Children, Youth, Families, and Communities
- NGA Addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences(ACEs) Learning Collaborative

National Governors Association Learning Lab



CHILDREN'S CABINET

